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LETTER DATED 12 JANUARY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a letter dated 28 December 1995 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan H.E. Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, to H.E. Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the assassination attempt against H.E. President Mubarak of Egypt.

I request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali M. O. YASSIN
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 28 December 1995 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan addressed to the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity

May I recall, with appreciation, the opportunity extended to me, upon your kind invitation, to participate in and address the recently concluded meeting, at ministerial level, of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, held in Addis Ababa from 18 to 19 December 1995, which dealt, inter alia, with item 6 on the assassination attempt against H.E. President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt. Allow me, in this connection, to address two matters specifically: the extradition issue and the accusations levelled by Egypt during the course of that meeting against my country regarding alleged training and sanctuary given by the Sudan to terrorist elements from some African countries.

Guided by its keen interest to pursue its full cooperation with you and with the Central Organ, and prompted by our expressed desire to act seriously on the issue of extradition, I have the honour formally to invite you to visit the Sudan, as soon as possible, in order to discuss with the authorities concerned ways and means of implementation.

Within this framework, I would like to urge, through you, both Ethiopia and Egypt, to collaborate with the Sudan by furnishing the information that they claim to have about the three suspects and their whereabouts, and to act jointly with it to implement the demands of the Central Organ meeting held on 18 and 19 December 1995.

My second concern relates to the accusations made by the Foreign Minister of Egypt on alleged training and sanctuary given by the Sudan to some terrorist elements from various African countries in certain camps within its territory whose names he mentioned during the meeting. You would agree with me that such harmful allegations should not be left uninvestigated. While taking this opportunity to reassure you, and through you all concerned States, that the Sudan is not at all training or giving sanctuary to any terrorist elements from any country, which is in accordance with the cardinal principles of its foreign policy and in full adherence to the OAU Charter, it is the request of the Sudanese Government that OAU itself should investigate the matter. Accordingly, I wish to propose the sending to the Sudan by the Central Organ of a fact-finding mission to verify the claims and to make its findings known to all and sundry. The fact-finding mission, which we believe should include representatives of all the States mentioned in the statement of the Egyptian Foreign Minister, will be allowed free access to all places mentioned, though misspelt, in the Egyptian submission.

While presenting the aforementioned proposals for immediate action, and as the only direct and practical means to put an end to these repeated allegations against my country, I would like to reiterate the Sudan's full commitment to good-neighbourliness, non-interference in the affairs of others and the stability and security of Africa at large.

I would like to request you to circulate the present letter to all Foreign Ministers of OAU member States, especially the Chairman and members of the central Organ. Attention of the Ministers is drawn, among other things, to the unfortunate fact that, while the Sudan is demonstrating in full its willingness to cooperate on the issue at hand, Ethiopia, itself the current Chairman of OAU, has opted to flagrantly disregard the letter and spirit of the outcome of the last meeting of the Central Organ that clearly affirmed the call for handling of the matter within an African context. I am sure you are aware of the fact that the Ethiopian Deputy Foreign Minister addressed an informal meeting of the Security Council on 21 December 1995, that is only two days after raising the issue within the OAU Mechanism meeting, and asked for the matter to be handled by the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Osman Mohamed TAHA
Minister for Foreign Affairs